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Muelich

PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 041501-5426

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Sun Kwan EOM) Confirmation No: 5664
)
Application No.: 09/893,988) Group Art Unit: 2815
)
Filed: June 29, 2001) Examiner: E. Ortiz
)
For: FLAT LAMP FOR EMITTING LIGHTS)
TO A SURFACE AREA AND LIQUID)
CRYSTAL DISPLAY USING THE SAME)

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place, Customer Window
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

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RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed May 20, 2003, the period for response to which extends through June 20, 2003, Applicant elects the invention defined by the Examiner as Species I (claims 1-7 and 10-14, Fig. 2), for examination on the merits.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-20 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter for any one species would necessarily encompass a search of the subject matter of the remaining species. Further it is submitted that the total number of species is not an unreasonable number of species to examine. Thus, it is respectfully

submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be performed without serious burden. M.P.E.P. § 803 clearly states that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes two distinct or independent inventions." It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to the Applicant and duplicative examination by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the election of species requirement and to examine all claims in this application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 11, 2003

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